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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006)

Note verbale dated 15 May 2007 from the Permanent Mission of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and, with reference to the latter's note verbale dated 20 April 2007, has the honour to attach herewith the report of the Kingdom of Bahrain pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 1747 (2007) and to paragraph 19 of resolution 1737 (2006) (see annex).

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Annex to the note verbale dated 15 May 2007 from the Permanent Mission of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

[Original: Arabic]

Report of the Kingdom of Bahrain on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1737 (2006)

In keeping with the objectives of the United Nations in the realm of the maintenance of international peace and security, the Kingdom of Bahrain has taken all measures to ensure compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1737 (2006).

Measures taken at the national level

Measures taken pursuant to Security Council resolution 1737 (2006):

The Central Bank of Bahrain has issued a circular to all banks and financial institutions licensed by the Bank regarding the implementation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1737 (2006) and the freezing of the assets of individuals or institutions named therein. Those banks and financial institutions were also instructed to provide the Central Bank of Bahrain with any relevant information.

Measures already in place in the Kingdom of Bahrain

1. The entry of hazardous chemicals into the Kingdom of Bahrain is controlled by the Directorate General of Customs and the office for the control and licensing of explosives and related substances. In addition, a draft decision has been proposed on the establishment of a unit within the Ministry of the Interior for the control and licensing of explosives. This unit would control and issue licenses for the import of explosives and related substances; set forth licensing terms and conditions for the possession, acquisition or transportation of explosives and related substances; and specify the substances that are considered to be explosives.

2. Chemicals are imported into the Kingdom by the ministries, companies and enterprises that are licensed to do so, and an import permit is required. The laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain regulate the terms and conditions for the import of chemicals through the Directorate General for Civil Defence of the Ministry of the Interior, pursuant to Law No. 50 of 1990 on civil defence and the ministerial decisions issued in implementation of that law. All required documents are scrutinized and checked, and there is coordination with other authorities in the Kingdom such as those concerned with environmental affairs.

3. The transportation of chemicals (explosives) is subject to the approval of specialists at the Directorate General for Civil Defence of the Ministry of the Interior and also requires a permit. Permits are issued when the requirements for the possession or import of such materials have been met. Transportation is coordinated with the General Directorate of Traffic in order to guarantee safety.

4. Chemical residues are disposed of in cooperation with the marine resources, environmental and wildlife protection agency, so as to preserve a healthy environment; only equipment specifically designed for this purpose is used.

5. The security control services of the Kingdom inspect all ships or other types of land or sea transport that enter the Kingdom's ports or pass through its entry/exit points. Ships, particularly those arriving from States with which the Security Council resolution is concerned, are only allowed to dock at official ports, and chemicals in their cargo are subject to the required inspection.

Measures taken at the international level

The Kingdom of Bahrain has ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction by means of decree No. 6 of 1997, and the Kingdom fulfils all obligations pursuant to the Convention.

Law No. 58 of 2006 on the protection of society from terrorist acts has been enacted. This law criminalizes the use of force in a manner which affects the safety of the Kingdom or the security of the international community; the manufacture, import, possession, transportation, promotion or use of conventional and non-conventional weapons or explosives or ammunition; and any action that entails the introduction of any substance into the country for terrorist purposes. Perpetrators of or participants in the actions described in this law are punished, and the funds and instruments used are confiscated.

Law No. 54 of 2006 amending some of the provisions of Decree-Law No. 4 of 2001 on the prohibition and combating of money-laundering was enacted. Some of those amendments concern coordination among the specialized authorities with the aim of implementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, conventions on the suppression of the financing of terrorism and other relevant conventions and treaties.